

**Environmental Restoration (ER) Project
Cerro Grande Fire
Accelerated Action Information Sheet**

**Potential Release Site (PRS) C-02-001
Metal Nugget Pile**

Technical Area (TA)-2, located in Los Alamos Canyon, housed several reactors, including the Omega West and Water Boiler Reactors. The reactors were shutdown, removed from the nuclear facilities list, and placed into the Laboratory's Decontamination and Decommissioning program.

PRS History: PRS C-02-001, the metal nugget site, is a pile of metal nuggets on the west side of TA-2, near solid waste management unit 2-009. The unit consists of approximately one square foot of iron nuggets on top of a mound of soil. ER Project personnel conducted a field screening and collected three samples in 1996; none of the radiological readings were above background concentrations.

PRS C-02-001 is not listed on the Hazardous and Solid Waste Amendments module to the Laboratory's Hazardous Waste Facility permit. The ER Project has not proposed the site for no further action because additional surface and subsurface soil samples need to be collected before the determination can be made.

Issues of Concern: The area upstream of PRS C-02-001 burned during the Cerro Grande fire. The intensity of upstream burn was low to moderate. The metal nuggets on the site are in close proximity to Los Alamos creek and could increase the potential for erosion or scouring as well as entering the flood watercourse. There are no structures



on the site that could interfere with or be impacted by flood mitigation efforts.

Accelerated Action Status: PRS C-02-001 was evaluated after the Cerro Grande fire. ER Project personnel excavated the metal nugget pile and disposed of the material during the first week of October 2000. They also collected verification samples from two locations on the site; the data has not yet been validated or reviewed.

Related Documents:

"Additional Information on a Newly Identified AOC," memo from Jorg Jansen (ER Project) and Theodore Taylor (DOE) to Barbara Driscoll (NMED), February 7, 1996.